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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/092,189	03/06/2002	D. Travis Lay	10018556-1	8102

7590 09/26/2005

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
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EXAMINER
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POKRZYWA, JOSEPH R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 09/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/092,189	<b>Applicant(s)</b> LAY ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Joseph R. Pokrzywa	<b>Art Unit</b> 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

1. The drawings received on 3/6/02 are acceptable by the examiner.

### *Claim Objections*

2. **Claim 17** is objected to because of the following informalities:

in *claim 17* line 1, “method” should read “system”.

Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. **Claims 1-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Webb *et al.*

(U.S. Patent Number 5,727,135).

Regarding *claim 1*, Webb discloses a method for informing a user in a GUI environment whether an output device is currently ready for printing (see abstract, and column 7, line 54-column 8, line 31) comprising determining whether the output device is ready for printing (column 19, lines 1-59, and column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10), providing a first indication to the user if the output device is not ready for printing (printer button 304 having alert 306, seen

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in Fig. 8, column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10), and providing a second indication to the user if the output device is ready for printing (printer button 303 and 305, seen in Fig. 8, column 19, lines 1-59, and column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10).

Regarding *claim 2*, Webb discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches that providing the first indication comprises presenting a button in a first color (column 2, lines 19-26, and column 6, lines 56-column 7, line 18), and providing the second indication comprises presenting the button in a second color (column 2, lines 19-26, and column 6, lines 56-column 7, line 18).

Regarding *claim 3*, Webb discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches that the presenting the button comprises presenting the button on an application button bar (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 4*, Webb discloses the method discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches that the presenting the button comprises presenting the button on a printer properties menu (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 5*, Webb discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of receiving a status indication from the output device, and the determination whether the output device is ready for printing comprises utilizing the status indication (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 6*, Webb discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches of requesting the status indication from the output device (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10).

Regarding *claim 7*, Webb discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of providing the first indication comprises presenting a first button, and providing the second indication comprises presenting a second button (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 8*, Webb discloses the method discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of accepting a request to ready the output device for printing, and notifying the output device to become ready for printing (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10).

Regarding *claim 9*, Webb discloses the method discussed above in claim 8, and further teaches of receiving a notification from the output device that the output device is ready for printing (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10).

Regarding *claim 10*, Webb discloses the method discussed above in claim 9, and further teaches of providing the second indication to the user in response to the receiving the notification from the output device that the output device is ready for printing (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 11*, Webb discloses a system configured to inform a user in a GUI environment whether an output device is currently ready for printing (see abstract, and column 7, line 54-column 8, line 31) comprising a computer instruction storage medium containing a set of computer instructions (column 5, lines 47-63, and column 7, lines 19-62) for determining

whether the output device is ready for printing (column 19, lines 1-59, and column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10), a set of computer instructions for providing a first indication of the user if the output device is not ready for printing (printer button 304 having alert 306, seen in Fig. 8, column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10), and a set of computer instructions for providing a second indication to the user if the output device is ready for printing (printer button 303 and 305, seen in Fig. 8, column 19, lines 1-59, and column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10).

Regarding *claim 12*, Webb discloses the system discussed above in claim 11, and further teaches that the set of computer instructions for providing the first indication comprises a set of computer instructions for presenting a button in a first color (column 2, lines 19-26, and column 6, lines 56-column 7, line 18), and a set of computer instructions for providing the second indication comprises presenting the button in a second color (column 2, lines 19-26, and column 6, lines 56-column 7, line 18).

Regarding *claim 13*, Webb discloses the system discussed above in claim 12, and further teaches that the sets of computer instructions for presenting the button comprises a set of computer instructions for presenting the button on an application button bar (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 14*, Webb discloses the system discussed above in claim 12, and further teaches that the sets of computer instructions for presenting the button comprises a set of computer instructions for presenting the button on a printer properties menu (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 15*, Webb discloses the system discussed above in claim 11, and further teaches of a set of computer instructions for receiving a status indication from the output device,

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and a set of computer instructions for determining whether the output device is ready for printing comprises utilizing the status indication (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 16*, Webb discloses the system discussed above in claim 15, and further teaches of a set of computer instructions for requesting the status indication from the output device (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10).

Regarding *claim 17*, Webb discloses the system discussed above in claim 11, and further teaches of a set of computer instructions for providing the first indication comprises presenting a first button, and a set of computer instructions for providing the second indication comprises presenting a second button (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 18*, Webb discloses the system discussed above in claim 11, and further teaches of a set of computer instructions for accepting a request to ready the output device for printing, and a set of computer instructions for notifying the output device to become ready for printing (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10).

Regarding *claim 19*, Webb discloses the system discussed above in claim 18, and further teaches of a set of computer instructions for receiving a notification from the output device that the output device is ready for printing (column 10, line 7-column 11, line 10, and column 22, line 27-column 23, line 10, see Fig. 8).

Regarding *claim 20*, Webb discloses a computer readable medium containing computer instructions (column 5, lines 47-63, and column 7, lines 19-62) for determining whether the output device is ready for printing (column 19, lines 1-59, and column 22, line 52-column 23,

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line 10), providing a first indication to the user if the output device is not ready for printing (printer button 304 having alert 306, seen in Fig. 8, column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10), and providing a second indication to the user if the output device is ready for printing (printer button 303 and 305, seen in Fig. 8, column 19, lines 1-59, and column 22, line 52-column 23, line 10).

### ***Citation of Pertinent Prior Art***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

**Kadota** (U.S. Patent Number 5,937,151) discloses a system that receives a status of an attached printer; and

**Inoue *et al.*** (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0105664) discloses a system that displays a message that an attached printer is not ready.

### ***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7410. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00.

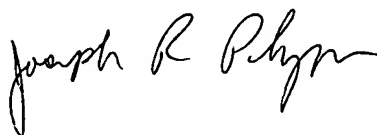
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph R. Pokrzywa  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2622

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joseph R. Pokrzywa", written in black ink.

jrp